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PROCEEDINGS
OF
THE ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

[ISSUED 29TH JUNE, 1864.]

SESSION 1863-64.

Ninth Meeting, April 11th, 1864.

SIR RODERICK I. MURCHISON, K.C.B., PRESIDENT, in the Chair.

PRESENTATIONS.—*F. S. Fitzpatrick, Esq.; Capt. Lamorock Flower; S. Keir, Esq.; E. Blore, Esq.*

ELECTIONS.—*Sir Victor A. Brooke, Bart.; A. H. Dick, Esq., M.A.; Richard Fort, Esq.; Henry Jeula, Esq.; W. W. Kiddle, Esq., R.N.; James Laforest, Esq.; Rev. John Mills; Hon. Leopold Powys; Hon. C. J. Powys; Richard A. L. Phillips, M.A.; W. R. Taylor, Esq.; Edward Thomas Wakefield, Esq., M.A.*

ACCESSIONS TO LIBRARY.—‘Notes of a Cruise in H.M.S. *Fawn*, in the Western Pacific, in the year 1862, by T. H. Hood.’ ‘A Sketch of Assam, with some Account of the Hill Tribes, by an Officer in the H.E.I.C.’s Bengal Native Infantry, in Civil Employ.’ Continuations of Transactions of various Societies, &c. &c.

ACCESSIONS TO THE MAP-ROOM since the last Meeting, March 14, 1864.—Denmark: Plan of Düppel, with its Fortifications.—Nörrejylland, Plate 8, presented by the War Office, through Sir Edward Lugard.—Kart over Slesvigs Fastland, scale $\frac{1}{125000}$, on 3 sheets. Admiralty Charts, up to publication.

The PRESIDENT said the Secretary would read a short communication upon a subject which had attracted some attention among geographers, as to a lake having two issues. Various papers upon the point had appeared in the ‘Athenæum’ and other journals; and the gentleman who made this communication mentioned two instances of the kind, which had come under his own observation in Norway.

MR. SPOTTISWOODE then read the following

Letter from EARDLEY T. BLACKWELL, Esq., to SIR RODERICK I. MURCHISON.

8, Upper Park Place, Richmond, March 14th, 1864.

SIR,—My attention was called last summer to certain letters in the 'Athenæum,' questioning the accuracy of Captain Speke's assertion, that the great lake "Nyanza," in Central Africa, had more than one outlet. I see also that this subject is touched upon in the Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society, issued the 25th of February this year.

It has been represented to me that mention should be made of a fact, known to myself (and probably to others in this country), that lakes having more than one outlet occur in Norway.

The most interesting of these lakes is called the "Lessöe-værks-vand," lies under 62° 13' north latitude, and is close to the high road connecting the valleys of Gulbrandsdal and Romsdal. The considerable rivers "Lougen," and "Rauma," escape from opposite ends of the lake, the latter reaching the Atlantic by the Romsdal's fjord at Veblungsnæs; while the former, after a longer course in a south-easterly direction, eventually joins the Glommen, which enters the sea near the Swedish frontier.

Thus the whole of Norway south of these rivers may be said to be an island.

I should mention that the sheet of the Norwegian Government Map (Amtskart) showing this, is in my hands in England; and I shall be happy to send it to yourself, or to any other gentleman desirous of such confirmation of my statement.

I remain, Sir, yours with the greatest respect,

(Signed) EARDLEY T. BLACKWELL.

The PRESIDENT said that, at a former meeting of the Society, Colonel Lefroy mentioned cases in North America with which he was perfectly well acquainted, and other gentlemen had affirmed that there were lakes in different parts of the world that had two issues. It must constantly happen, where the watershed is at no great elevation, that the determination of the water to one side or the other is a phenomenon that might easily occur.

MR. DUNCAN thought the case just recorded hardly bore reference to the outlets we had heard of from Captain Speke. The outlets were both in one direction, while most of those we had heard of flowed in different directions.

The PRESIDENT said, Captain Speke had never asserted that there were two distinct outlets in one direction; he only examined one outlet himself, the other he only heard of from the natives. It rested, therefore, upon no real authority that the two outlets had the same direction.

The first Paper read was—

1. *On an Overland Expedition from Port Denison to Rockingham Bay in Queensland.* By A. J. SCOTT.

Communicated through the COLONIAL OFFICE.

THE Expedition, which was under the leadership of Mr. Dalrymple, was undertaken with the object of ascertaining whether there was the possibility of establishing a dray-road from the Valley of Lagoons to Rockingham Bay, which the writer described as a first-class port, only 75 miles distant from the Lagoons; while Port Denison, the present port of shipment, is upwards of 200 miles. The Paper was accompanied by an official letter on the subject of the expedition,